



NO TIME TO WASTE:

EU-wide end-of-waste criteria for recycled rubber from tyres





The European Tyre and Rubber Manufacturers' association (ETRMA) and the European Recycling Industries' Confederation (EuRIC) are pleased to see rubber recycled from end-of-life tyres among the "top 3" most suitable candidate streams for which to develop further EU-wide end-of-waste (EoW) criteria in the [European Commission JRC's report](#). However, this prioritization exercise is not enough when no date is on the horizon. Today, rubber circularity from end-of-life tyres (ELT) is at stake, and the tyre value chain (from producers to recyclers) is ready for taking this step at EU level right now.



Key benefits of EU-wide EoW for recycled rubber from tyres

 <p>Promote more material circularity</p> <p>The existence of EoW for ELT-derived rubber is key to enhance ELT treatment way up in the waste hierarchy</p>	 <p>Reduce waste and stockpiling</p> <p>Stability of end-market applications is under pressure. EoW will release this pressure by activating the recycling market through enhanced recycled rubber demand</p>	 <p>Non-waste but a product</p> <p>Moving out from the waste status adds trust to the market of a material meeting the standards that the industry needs in terms of safety and quality criteria</p>	 <p>Improve environmental footprint</p> <p>By enhancing recycled contents, there is a reduction of imports from out-EU of natural rubber (a EU critical raw material) and synthetic rubber</p>	 <p>Enhance investment</p> <p>Investors' security will increase by leveling the playing field with virgin materials and supporting trade across EU borders in equal conditions and with equivalent opportunities</p>	 <p>New applications</p> <p>The development of innovative solutions for this valuable rubber resource comes by working with a product which is accountable for quality and safety</p>
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Why an EU-wide EoW for tyre-derived rubber now?

-  **The tyre value chain is united and strongly supports EU-wide EoW:** together with a high level of transparency and expertise as reflected by existing national EoW criteria.
-  **Continued material supply through excellent collection in EU:** thanks to EPR schemes, all tyres are collected and treated, resulting in a 95% treatment rate across Europe.
-  **A lot of untapped potential:** 38% of the ELT annually emerging in EU are mechanically recycled. Giving added value to recycled rubber is crucial at the time that [new REACH restrictions](#) are being defined to control the risks *vis a vis* the environment and human health for the artificial sport pitches infill application, which represent 30% of the ELT rubber recycling end market. An EU-wide EoW criteria will help enforce these restrictions in a harmonized way, as the recycled rubber will become a product, following EU regulations such as REACH.
-  **Geopolitical situation:** the production of rubber goods has been impacted by the reduced availability of synthetic rubber and carbon black, which evidence the need of Member States to become more resource independent and increase the recoverability and use of materials recycled from tyres and used again in production of tyres or other rubber goods.

Click for more info on EoW: [EuRIC](#) / [ETRMA](#)




End of Life Tyre Rubber: Assessment of Waste Framework Directive End-of-Waste Criteria

European Recycling Industries' Confederation
European Tyre and Rubber Manufacturers Association

Project number: 000003
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